

## Foster Park Elementary School

901 Arthur Blvd.

Union, SC 29379



# South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

**Grades:** PK-5 Elementary

**Enrollment:** 534 students

**School Phone:** 864-429-1737

**School Website:** <http://unionfes.ss8.sharpschool.com/>

**Principal:** Barbara Palmer

**Superintendent:** Dr. Kristi V. Woodall

**Board Chair:** Dr. Wanda All



### Profile of the SC Graduate

#### World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences\*

#### World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

#### Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

### WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

*Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...*

Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career Characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by allowing our students to participate in a broad array of learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. Teachers anchor curriculum around authentic projects in science and math that connect with real-world experiences. Our teachers not only use real world examples in everyday lessons, they tie projects into real world challenges. Our students solve real world problems and learn to think critically using technology, manipulatives, and small learning teams. In these teams, they not only learn from each other, but learn to communicate effectively. We are pleased to provide you with our annual school report card. It contains data highlighting the successes and challenges of the 2014-2015 school year. The numbers, however, can only tell part of the story. Foster Park is home to outstanding students, teachers, and families, and has been for over fifty years. We celebrate our classroom instruction. Through the use of research-based practices, teachers are able to identify each student's strengths and needs and plan instruction accordingly. Over 90% of our students were reading on grade level by year's end. Our students participated in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities throughout the year. We celebrate the infusion of technology into our curriculum. A computer lab, along with mobile iPad and laptop labs are utilized to teach math, writing, science, and writing. Students learn research skills along with keyboarding and publishing. We celebrate our arts program. With the support from grant funding, Foster Park students are immersed in the arts. During the 2014-2015 school year, they worked with a master artist to create a timeline mural. Students learned to how to play the harmonica and heard a children's author/illustrator share her books. And throughout the year, the students danced, sang, and acted their way into the hearts of the community through outstanding productions, including the musical, Annie. Foster Park also celebrates our community service projects. During the 2014-2015 school year our students visited local nursing homes, sent letters to the troops, collected food for the animal shelter, participated in Relay for Life, collected shoes and coats, and found the joy that comes with serving others. Finally, we celebrate you, the parents and guardians. Without you, our team would be incomplete. Together, we are preparing your child to be a successful student now and a graduate in the years to come.

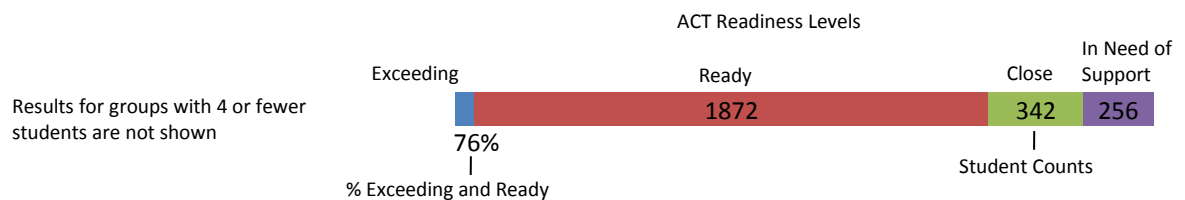
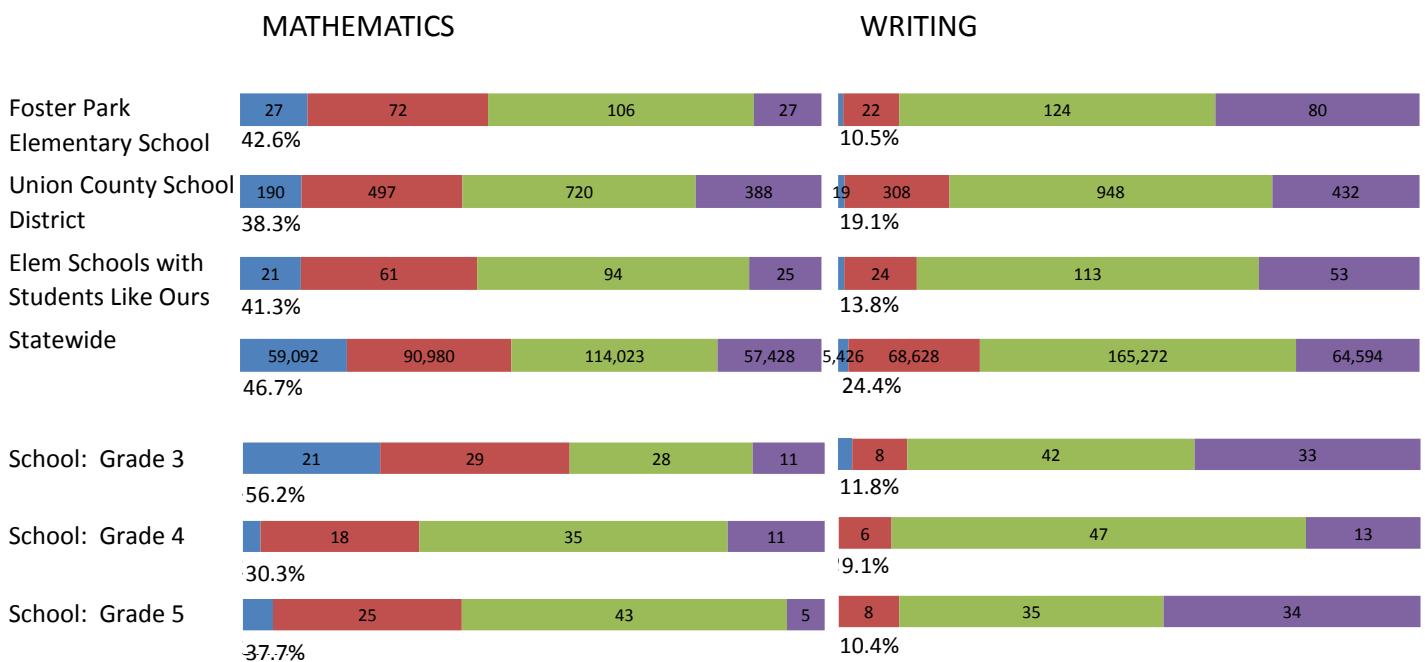
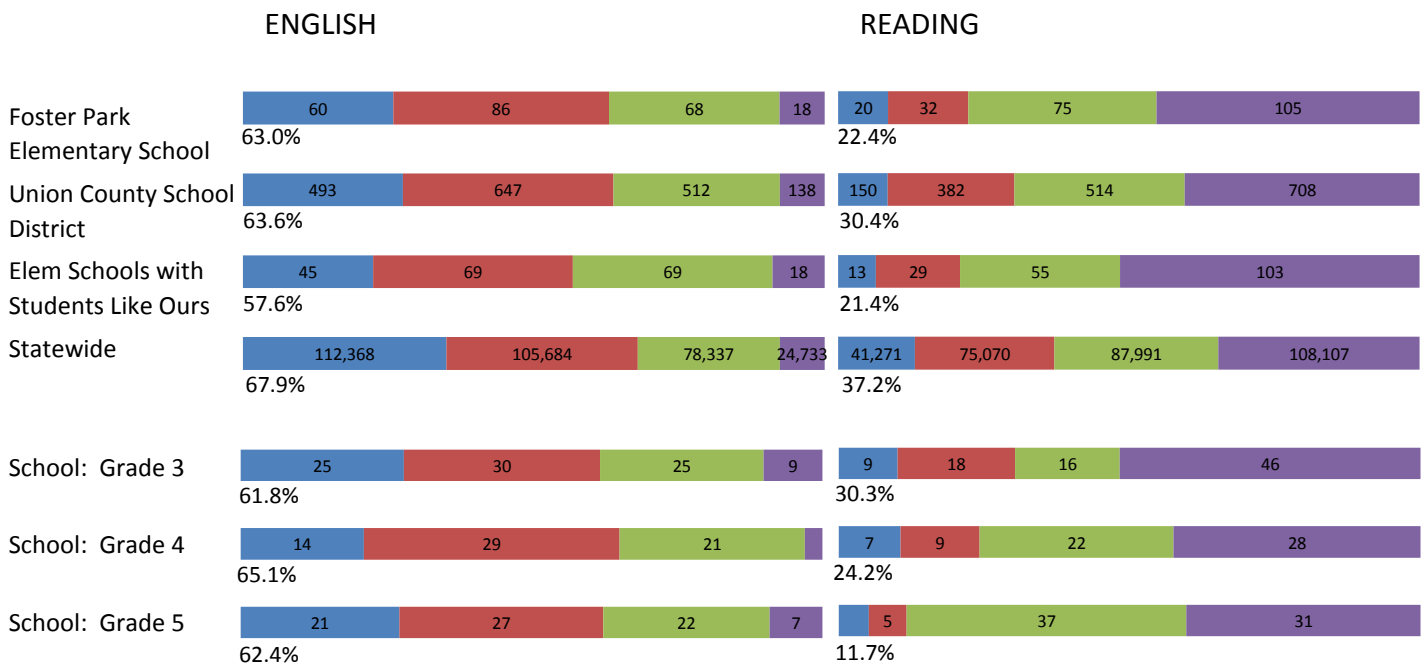
SIC Chairperson, Kathy Bryson

Barbara Palmer, Principal

\* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

**KNOWLEDGE**

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



## Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

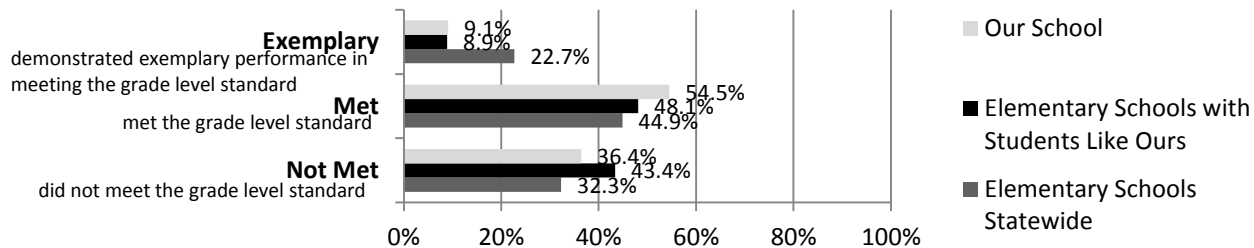
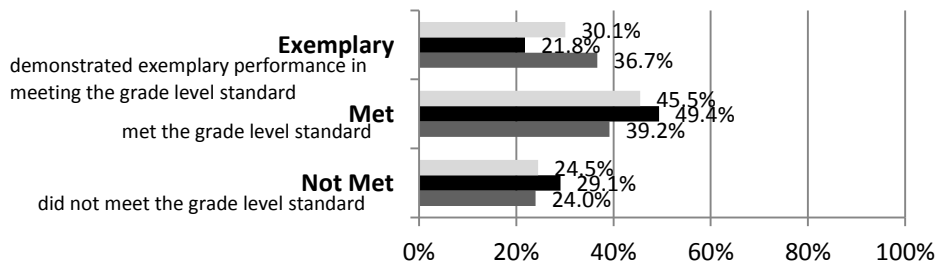
N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

**KNOWLEDGE**

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

**Science****Social Studies****Science SCPASS**

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
72.7	55.8

**Social Studies SCPASS**

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level	
4th grade	5th grade
87.9	64.9

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary	" <b>Exemplary</b> ": student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	" <b>Met</b> ": student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	" <b>Not Met</b> ": student did not meet the grade level standard.

Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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**OPPORTUNITIES****For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with students like ours
<b>Students (n = 534)</b>			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	87.2	Down from 90.2%	N/A
Attendance Rate	96.4	Down from 96.6%	95.4
With disabilities	12.3	Up from 11.7%	13.1
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	No change	0.0
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	3.7	Down from 4.0%	4.4
Percentage of students retained	1.9	Down from 3.0%	1.4
<b>Teachers (n = 32)</b>			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	46.9	Up from 44.1%	60.0
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	90.6	Up from 88.2%	77.5
Teachers returning from previous year	87.5	Down from 88.5%	85.4
Teacher attendance rate	92.9	Down from 95.4%	94.8
Average teacher salary*	\$47,012	Up 0.7%	\$46,581
Professional development days / teacher	13.7 days	Down from 18.7 days	11.0 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	0.0	N/A	1.1
<b>School</b>			
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.6 to 1	Up from 19.3 to 1	19.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.4	Down from 91.8%	89.1
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0	Up from 99.0%	100.0
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Excellent
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	16.0	N/A	15.1
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	28.3	N/A	28.1
Bandwidth capacity per student	<25 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	76-100%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.6	N/C	0.8
District-issued technology devices per teacher	1.4	N/C	2.0
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0	No change	0.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,358	Down 8.9%	\$8,386
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	66.5	Up from 66.4%	65.6
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	67.6	Down from 67.7%	66.8

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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**OPPORTUNITIES****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents**

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
Number of surveys returned	27	65	40
Percent satisfied with learning environment	81.5	70.7	85.0
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	74.0	64.1	82.5
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	77.7	83.1	79.5

\* Only students at the highest elementary school grade and their parents were included.

**State Ratings History of School**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Growth Rating</b>
2014	Average	Average
2013	Average	Below Average
2012	Good	Excellent

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

**Additional Resources**

SC State Content Standards  
[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)  
[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)  
[Report Card Data Files](#)  
[ESEA Data Files](#)

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